



PRESS RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT

Molly Deuberry
Director of Communications
Department of Public Works
Cell: 677.6496

Winter Warm-Up Causes Thawing Residents Responsible for Clearing Storm Inlets

INDIANAPOLIS – Spring seems just around the corner, but the Indianapolis Department of Public Works (DPW) reminds you of the potentially dangerous elements winter is leaving behind. Ice and snow that may be covering your driveway are also covering storm inlets. Covered inlets prevent water from draining properly, which can create flooding and/or slick road conditions.

“While most of us are excited to see temperatures rise above freezing, the thawing of snow and ice can have a significant impact on our community,” DPW Director David Sherman said. “Clearing inlets of large chunks of debris, leaves, and ice is one way to prevent standing water on your streets.”

When inlets are clogged or blocked by debris, street flooding may occur or black ice may form. In addition, standing water on streets can work its way into the sanitary and combined sewers, taking up needed capacity and contributing to raw sewage overflows and back-ups at homes and businesses.

There are more than 10,000 miles of drainage facilities in Marion County. Approximately 6,000 of those miles are on private property and must be maintained by property owners, according to Sections 431-506 and 561-211 of the Revised Code of the City and County. For these property owners, drainage responsibilities include clearing storm inlets.

For more information, please visit www.indy.gov/dpw.

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